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COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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MIDDLE SCHOOL

KEES Data Report for 2003 available online

Interested Kentuckians may now go online to see how Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) awards are earned and distributed among the state's high school and college students. The KEES Data Report for 2003 can be found at www.kheaa.com/serv_reports.html.

"We break down the information by county, high school, school district, race and gender," said Dr. Joe L. McCormick, KHEAA's Executive Director.

The KEES program was created in 1998 to encourage students to stay in school, make good grades and advance to college—preferably a school in Kentucky, McCormick said. "We now have sufficient data to analyze these questions. Has KEES altered students' behavior? Are they going to Kentucky colleges?"

McCormick said he hopes educators and policy makers will use the KEES data to analyze the effectiveness of the KEES program.

Marci Kazee, a guidance counselor at Magoffin County High School, said the report can be used to show parents the rewards of maintaining a high grade point average.

"They want to know what incentive there is to make better grades. KEES money shows them why it's important," she said.

KEES data for 2004 will be added to the website soon, McCormick said. He projected that the 2005 data will be available online by the end of the year.

"I would like to encourage people to give us their feedback and let us know if this information is useful to them," McCormick said.

To comment on the KEES Data Report, contact KHEAA's Policy Analysis group at 502.696.7471 or e-mail mletteer@kheaa.com.

The KEES program is funded by revenue from the Kentucky Lottery. To qualify for a base award, a student must have a 2.5 GPA or higher for at least one year

of high school. To qualify for a bonus award, a high school student must have earned at least one base award and at least a 15 ACT (or SAT-equivalent) score. GED recipients and graduates of non-certified Kentucky high schools who otherwise meet eligibility criteria may qualify for a bonus award but not a base award.

For more information about KEES and other financial aid programs, visit www.kheaa.com; call 800.928.8926, ext. 7394; or write to KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798.

KHEAA and The Student Loan Peoplesm publish the *Counselor Connection* to share information about student financial aid, college preparation and college planning.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Please send them to publications@kheaa.com.

KHEAA and The Student Loan People are EEOC employers.



Fleming County High wins '30 Seconds of Fame' contest

Over 60 ads from Kentucky high schools were entered in the GoHigherKy.org's "30 Seconds to Fame" ad competition—and the entry by Fleming County was the overwhelming winner. Students Miyuki Urata, Blake Jenkins, Andrea Frazier, Ashton Weaver and Nehemiah Dunn put together the winning ad, which also featured Fleming County Principal Brad Sorrell. The ad campaign they designed launched Wednesday at a special assembly at the high school. WLEX weather anchor Bernadette Woods served as the master of ceremonies, with special guests Kelley Crain, the Fleming County school superintendent, and Secretary of Education Virginia Fox, a Fleming County native.

The winning team completed their ads—print, radio and TV—under the direction of teacher Mary Honaker. In the TV spot, a student works in a crowded computer lab when her computer begins touting the benefits of Go Higher's site. Other students crowd around as the computer recommends more about Go Higher, until someone notices Principal Sorrell coughing and looking over his glasses in their direction. The radio and print ads follow the same theme. All of the ads will begin running statewide next week.

Fleming County Judge Executive Larry Foxworthy, State Representative Mike Denham and staffers Kim Kraft of Sen. Mitch McConnell's office, John Salyers of Sen. Jim Bunning's office and Brent Legg of U.S. Rep. Geoff



Fleming County students Miyuki Urata, left, Blake Jenkins, Andrea Frazier, Ashton Weaver and Nehemiah Dunn, along with teacher Mary Honaker, show off KHEAA and The Student Loan People's donation to their school.

Davis's office joined in the celebration of the students' efforts. KHEAA and The Student Loan People contributed \$1,000 to the school, which made a big impression on the crowded gym with an oversized check. The agencies also contributed \$500 to Honaker to use in her classroom for supplies.

The winning students received director's chairs, and special T-shirts were made up to distribute to the production crew of the ads, including a few gracious teachers who allowed their classrooms to be disrupted during filming.

A copy of the winning print ad is on the back of this newsletter.

Legislation makes changes in KEES program

House Bill 460 makes several changes to the KEES Program.

Perhaps the most important from high schools' point of view is that schools will no longer report students' grades to the Kentucky Department of Education but directly to KHEAA.

The bill also transfers governance of the KEES program to KHEAA from the Council on Postsecondary Education.

One important change that counselors need to let students know about is that college students will lose their KEES eligibility if they are:

- In default on any Title IV loan.
- Liable for any amounts that exceed annual or aggregate limits on any federal student loan.
- Liable for overpayment of any grant or loan under Title IV.

Weis, McLoney named outreach counselors

Gene Weis of Louisville has joined KHEAA and The Student Loan People as an outreach counselor assigned to travel throughout the state with the College Info Road Show. Weis is a former college admissions counselor and has coached track and cross country at the University of Louisville, University of Kentucky, Bellarmine University and Midway College.



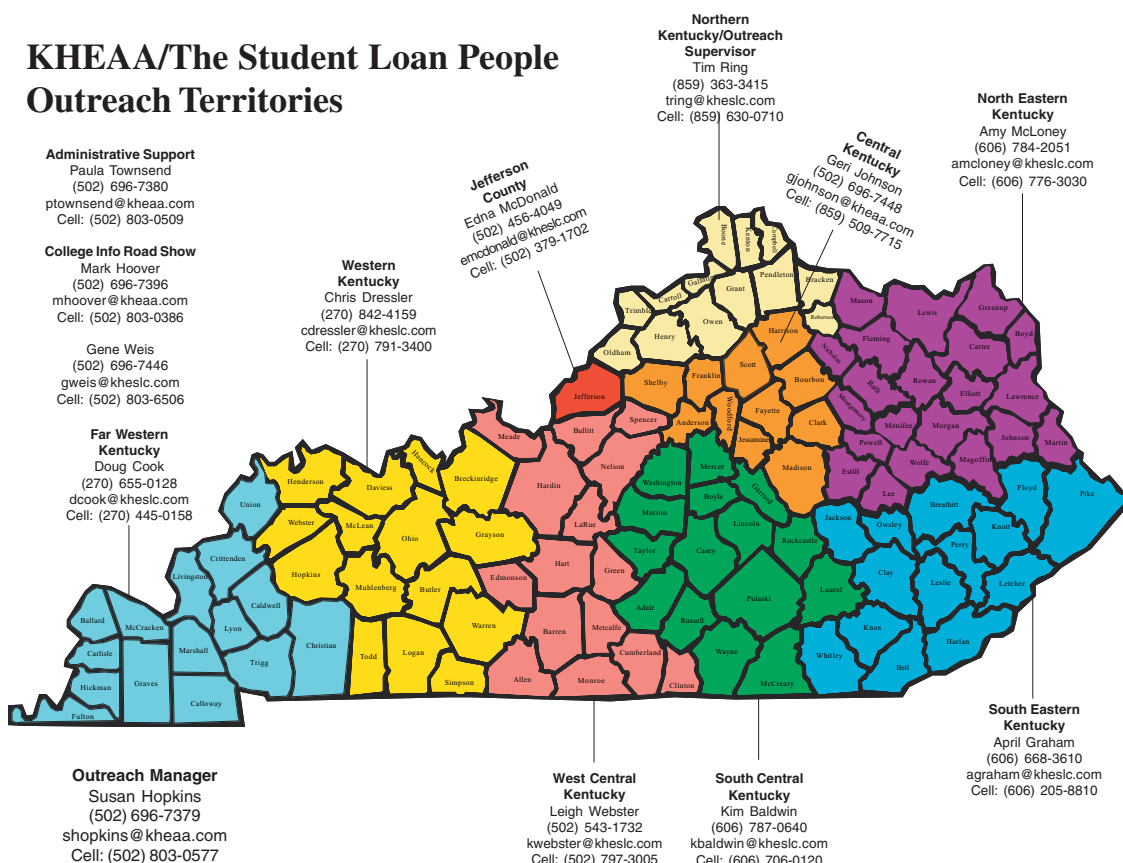
Amy McLoney of Morehead has been named outreach counselor for KHEAA and The Student Loan People. McLoney will assist students, parents, counselors and others in 21 counties in northeastern Kentucky.



Amy earned a master's in adult and higher education counseling from Morehead State University and has spent the last nine years teaching people about educational and financial aid opportunities. She has been a counselor for the MSU Commonwealth Educational Opportunity Center; coordinator of MSU's Continuing Education program, including facilitation of the day-to-day activities of the West Liberty Adult Education and Career Center; coordinator of the GED to College Grant; and director of workforce development at the Gateway Community Services Organization.

Weis joins Mark Hoover, who has been traveling across Kentucky with the College Info Road Show for the past three years. With the addition of Weis, the Road Show can now be even better utilized and increase the opportunities for Kentuckians to hear about the importance of higher education and how to pay for it.

KHEAA/The Student Loan People Outreach Territories





Your computer knows where to start your college search. So listen up!

What's it going to take to get you started...a talking computer? All you need to do is go to www.GoHigherKY.org. It's a one-stop source for all kinds of info, like researching Kentucky colleges, applying for admission, even checking out financing. So what are you waiting for? Visit the site and set up your free account today.



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Sponsored by KHEAA and The Student Loan PeopleSM 

This message was created by the students of Fleming County High School

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